



THE
SIROHI STATE
ADMINISTRATION REPORT
1944-45

(i. e. from 1st November 1944 to 31st October, 1945).



PRINTED AT
THE ARBUD PRINTING PRESS,
SIROHI.

To

His Highness Maharajadhiraj Maharao Shri
SIR SARUP RAM SINGHJI BAHADUR,

G. C. I. E., K. C. S. I.,
Maharao of Sirohi.

May it please Your Highness,

I have the honour to submit this report on the administration of Your Highness' State for the year ending 31st October 1945.

It is hoped that the progress made during the year will be found satisfactory.

Your Highness'
most obedient servant,

SIROHI,
the 10th December, 1945.

I. K. PANDYA,
Chief Minister, Sirohi State.

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THE SIROHI STATE ADMINISTRATION REPORT 1944-45.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

I. PHYSICAL ASPECTS.

SITUATION. The Sirohi State lies between $24^{\circ}.20''$ and $25^{\circ}.17''$ in North Latitude and $72^{\circ}.16''$ and $73^{\circ}.10''$ East Longitude.

BOUNDARY. The State is bounded in North, North-East and West by Marwar, on the East by Mewar, Idar, Danta and on the South and South-West by Palanpur.

AREA & POPULATION. Its area is 1,994 sq. miles. The population according to the Census of 1941 A. D. is 2,33,879 souls consisting of 1,20,476 males and 1,13,403 females of whom 1,64,914 are Hindus, 15,546 Jains, 7,113 Muslims, 483 Christians, 100 Parsis, 19 Sikhs, 18 Jews and 45,686 of primitive tribes.

GENERAL ASPECT. The country though fairly open, is mostly covered by Hills and Mountains, the chief of which is the well known Mt. Abu, the highest peak of which (Gurushikhar) rises 5,550 ft above the sea level.

2. RULING HOUSE.

'Sirohi', as Colonel Malleon rightly remarks, 'is the one domain in Rajputana which maintained its independence, acknowledging the suzerainty of neither Moghul, Rathor, nor Maratha. Claiming common descent from the heroes of Mahabharat, the ruling house of Sirohi is an off-shoot of the same illustrious branch, Chauhan, to which the last Hindu Emperor of India, Prithvi Raj belonged. It has been ruling over Sirohi for the past six centuries.

His Highness Maharajadhiraj Maharao Shri Sir
Sarup Ram Singh Bahadur, G. C. I. E.,
RULER. K. C. S. I., is the present Ruler and enjoys
a salute of 15 guns and return visit by the
Viceroy. He was born on 27th September 1888 A. D. and
ascended the throne on the 29th April 1920.

The net revenue calculated on the average of last
five years amounted to Rs. 18,15,634 while
REVENUE. the actual net revenue of the year 1944-
45 was Rs. 21,26,347/-.

3. ADMINISTRATION.

His Highness is the source of all authority and power in the State. The administration is carried on by the State Council established since 1940.

The Council is an executive body which consists of His Highness as President, Chief Minister as the Vice-President, and three other members, designated as the Home Member, the Revenue Member and the General Member. The members of the State Council are placed in charge of various departments and the heads of departments are responsible to the member who holds the relevant portfolio. The members have been delegated certain powers under the constitution of the Council, and all important

matters not within the powers of individual members as also other matters, requiring serious consideration or pertaining to general administration are referred to the Chief Minister or the Council.

The Chief Minister holds direct charge of a few departments and also exercises general control and supervision over all the departments of the State.

The personnel of the State Council during the year under report continued to be as under:—

PRESIDENT:—His Highness Raj Rajeshwar Maharajadhiraj Shree Sir Sarup Ram Singhji Saheb Bahadur, G. C. I. E., K. C. S. I., Maharao Saheb of Sirohi.

CHIEF MINISTER AND

VICE-PRESIDENT— Rao Bahadur Ichh-shankar K. Pandya, B. A., LL. B.

HOME MEMBER— Khan Bahadur D. D. Kothavala, M. B. E., I. P. (Retd.).

REVENUE MEMBER—Thakur Mahendra Singh Ranawat up to 19th September, 1945 and Mr. Goverdhan Singh Mehta B. A., LL. B. from 20th September onwards.

GENERAL MEMBER—Kunwar Laxman Singh of Dera

4. MOVEMENTS OF HIS HIGHNESS.

His Highness stayed mostly at Dera, passing about a couple of months at Abo, visited Bombay and Jaipur during the

5. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

Among the notable guests who visited the State during the year under report were the following:—

- (1) The Hon'ble Lt. Col. Sir George Gillan, K. C. I. E., Resident for Rajputana accompanied by Lady Gillan (stay from 4th to 7th Dec. 1944 and from 10th to 11th May 1945).
- (2) Lt. Col. G. B. Williams, C. I. E., M. C., Political Agent, Western Rajputana States.
- (3) A. S. Baiji Raj Shree P a d a m K u n w a r b a Sahaban, Her Highness the Maharani of Bhuj.
- (4) Mr. H. A. Carless, the Police Advisor to the Hon'ble the Resident for Rajputana.
- (5) Col. H. W. H e m l y n, Recruiting Officer for Rajputana and Central India.

6. BIRTHDAY OF HIS HIGHNESS.

The Birthday of His Highness was celebrated with great rejoicings on the 13th Oct. 1945. The day was observed as a public holiday and gun salute was fired. State flags were hoisted on public buildings and sweets were distributed to the school-children throughout the State. Poor people were fed at the capital and prisoners were given sweet meals. Some prisoners were released and some given remission in their terms of imprisonment. A Baby-Show was held and prizes were distributed. Prayers were offered throughout the State for the long life and prosperity of His Highness. Dearness allowance granted to the staff drawing between Rs 31/- and 60/- was increased by Re 1/- p. m.

A torch-light procession was taken out on the day in the capital at 8-30 p. m. from the Sarjavav Gate with

bands, which marching along the streets terminated at the Palace where the school-girls displayed a Garba Show with music.

An honorarium of Rs 500/- was given to Mr. Devichand N. Oswal, Bar-at-Law in appreciation of his disinterested public services in connection with the Election of Members of the Central Advisory Committee according to Adult Franchise.

On the day following, a campfire was held by the Scouts at the Colvin High School.

7. SUMMARY OF THE CHIEF EVENTS, REFORMS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

The more important reforms carried out during the year under report are mentioned below:—

With a view to associating the people more closely with the administration and to affording ampler opportunities to them to bring their needs to the notice of the Darbar, the constitution of the Central Advisory Committee was liberalised by the addition of seven non-official members in the preceding year and the promised enlargement of the Board was effected during the year. Elections were carried out on an adult franchise. (Vide Chapter IX)

One more law graduate came to be recruited in the Judicial Department.

A temporary post of additional Sub-Judge was created to relieve congestion of work of Aburoad Sub-Judge.

Rules were passed to provide a pauper pleader at State expenses to defend the poor accused charged with murder in the trial as well as the appellate court.

Reciprocal arrangements were entered into with the Hyderabad State for the execution of commissions and letters of requests under Chapter 40 of Criminal Procedure Code.

IMPROVEMENTS
OF SYSTEM OF
LAND TENURE. A uniform system of collection of State Revenues from Jagirdars was proposed and suitable additions in the Rules and Regulations for Jagirdars of the Sirohi State for cash settlement were made (Vide Chapter III).

Cash Settlement operations with Khalsa cultivators were almost completed.

AGRICULTURISTS' BANK. To save the agriculturists from falling easy victims in the clutches of SAHUKARS, an Agriculturists' Advance Bank was established with a capital of Rs. 50,000/- (fifty thousand) to start with to lend money free of interest to Khalsa Khatedars on certain conditions (Vide Chapter III).

OPENING CEREMONY OF ISLAMIA SCHOOL. At the request of the Muslims of Abu Road and under orders of His Highness, the Chief Minister performed the opening ceremony of the Islamia School at Abu Road and sanctioned a grant-in-aid of Rs. 35/- p. m. to the School which was built on the plot granted free of charge by the State.

OPENING CEREMONY OF SILDAR SCHOOL. On 7th January 1945, the Chief Minister, under orders of His Highness, performed the opening ceremony of the School building at Sildar constructed with the donations given by Sanghvi Poonamchand Manaji and his two brothers. On this occasion, the Chief Minister, out of good regards for the Jain donors, declared that Kartik Shud Poonam (known as Shidhachal Day) and Chaitra Shud Terus (the Birthday of Mahavir Swamiji), shall

henceforth be observed as public holidays throughout the State in all schools and offices and that no Hinsa (slaughter of any kind whatsoever) shall be done on these days throughout the State, and all meat-shops shall remain entirely closed on these days. The announcement was acclaimed with great joy by the Hindus and Jains.

New schools were opened at Reodar and Vasa during the year.

To provide efficient and adequately qualified staff for the Colvin High School, five graduate teachers were newly enlisted during the year.

On receipt of news of the unconditional surrender of Japan to the Allies, primary education was made free and in Sirohi Municipal Area it was made compulsory.

On the German Victory Celebration Day (10th May 1945), the foundation of this building was laid at the hands of Sir George Gillan, K. C. I. E., Resident for Rajputana. It is hoped that this building when constructed will satisfy one of the long felt needs of the people and afford them opportunities to read books and news papers.

FOUNDATION CEREMONY OF SARNESHWARJI LIBRARY AND TOWN HALL.

The Pindwara Dispensary being located in a private building, a new one was planned and its foundation laying ceremony was performed on 3rd April 1945, by Col. G. B. Williams, C. I. E., M. C., Political Agent, Western Rajputana States. The building is to be built by contributions made mainly by Mahajans of Pindwara and will be known as 'Williams Hospital'.

On 20-4-45 the opening ceremony of the Gaushala was performed under orders of His Highness the Chief Minister at Sheoganj, in the midst of a very large gathering. As it was announced to establish an 'Anath Ashram' on behalf of the public, the State promised a donation of Rs. 1,000/-.

His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased to confer the title of Khan Sahab as a personal distinction upon 'Mr. Badruddin Valiji Merchant, Sirohi State, Rajputana' on 1st January 1945.

To bring Abu Road city in line with other modern cities, a licence was issued during the year to Messrs Yodhya Shivprasad & Co. to start a Power House in Abu Road. This when constructed will illuminate the city and provide one of the essential modern amenities.

As the monetary penalty was not found effectual to prevent the practice of 'Kanya Vikraya' it was proposed to enact legislation to provide sentences of imprisonment for such offences and the District and Sessions Judge was asked to draft such a legislation in consultation with a committee of persons of the castes in which such a custom exists. But in view of the consensus opinion being against the proposed legislation and in favour of continuance of the present regulations, no such step was taken.

8. WAR EFFORTS.

The Local War Committee, which was established in 1940, continued to work during the year under report under the presidentship and guidance of the Chief Minister.

No pains were spared to assist the Recruiting Officers visiting the State from time to time in RECRUITMENT. raising recruits for the army. A reward of Rs. 5/- per recruit was offered to those who brought recruits for service in the Indian Army. This amount was increased to Rs. 7/- from 30th March 1945. Any one of the State forces wishing to join the army was encouraged and relieved soon with his lien being kept on the present post.

On 30th March 1945 a meeting of the Jagirdars and Chhuthbais of the State was convened. The Chief Minister read out to them the inspiring and emphatic message from His Highness reminding them of their past glory and illustrious traditions of chivalry and loyalty in-born in their Deora Blood and exhorting them to enlist themselves in all War Services and not to lag behind in the present race with any clan of martial blood. The Chief Minister also appointed an influential committee of leading Sardars to use all persuasive methods, exhortations and advise all Deoras to secure the largest possible number of Deora recruits.

The following concessions granted by the State to the service men were extended to the ex-service men and their families under Notification No. 264 Pol. dated 30th October 1945:—

1. Benefits of the Soldiers Litigation Act, which has been made applicable to the State.
2. Grant of total remission of Court Fees leviable under article 16 of Schedule to the Sirahi Court Fees Act for obtaining Succession Certificate in respect of an Indian Soldier who met his death while on active service. This concession was extended to the legal heirs of the deceased service men for a period of 5 years.

3. Complete exemption from Stamp duty on subletting the immoveable property of serving soldiers.
4. Free education to the children of serving soldiers in all classes in State schools.
5. Supply to their dependents of free stamped letters, which they may have to address to District Authorities.
6. Persons proceeding on active service or on being recalled as reserved were allowed to hold lien on their appointment after the war.
7. An annual allowance of Rs. 25/- to cover expenses of books, remission of tuition fees in the Middle and High School classes and free boarding and lodging to children and dependents of all State subjects, of whatever rank, whether combatants or non-combatants, who have since 4th August 1914 died while on active service or become permanently incapacitated owing to wounds or disease contracted while on active list.
8. A War Injuries Scheme was introduced, under which during the continuance of the present hostilities, if any bonafide resident or servant of the State, whether a civil defence volunteer or gainfully occupied person, sustained any such injury in the discharge of his duty as shall come under the definition of 'War Injury' he, and if such injury causes death, his dependents, shall be paid temporary allowance or disability pension or family pension or a lump sum payment by the State.

Deora Jalam Singh of Jelan happening to return from the European War theatre in Feb. 1945 was taken in a

procession in the Bazar of Sirohi town and was garlanded by the Chief Minister and presented with a 'SARPAO' and a money purse by the State. This was done to welcome the hero and with a view that it may act as an incentive to Deora Rajputs for getting themselves enlisted in the Army.

Mr. Gul Hasan Rizvi, Honorary Extra Assistant Recruiting Officer was awarded Rs. 1500/- as a reward for having secured 210 recruits from the State to join the regular Armies.

rumours and alarmist stories were effectively counteracted and checked, recruitment in the Army and investment in Government securities was encouraged, correct news relating the conduct and progress of War were published and efforts for collection of funds for War Purposes were vigorously pushed on. Periodical Monday lectures by the Head Master and teachers on the War affairs were also arranged during the year in Colvin High School to educate the opinion of the scholars and through them of their parents and guardians and the people as a whole. War propaganda films were also exhibited every month in general public free of charge.

The National Savings fortnight was observed from 11th to 22nd January 1945. The whole NATIONAL SAVINGS DRIVE scheme was given wide publicity by means of posters, pictures, pamphlets, lectures, processions and Cinema shows. As many as 123 authorised agents were appointed to sell National Savings Certificates and the agents conducted the work with quite commendable zeal. The response from the public was very satisfactory and about five to six lacs came to be invested in these Certificates.

While the above efforts were being pursued most zealously, the most happy news of complete collapse of Germany in May 1945 followed by the same fate of Japan in August, were received with great joy and the events were commemorated and celebrated with great rejoicings throughout the State with befitting programmes as stated below:—

The Allies' victory over Germany was celebrated as 'Gala Days' throughout the State on the 9th, 10th and 14th May 1945. The celebrations were graced with the presence of GERMAN VICTORY CELEBRATIONS. Hon'ble the Resident, Sir George Gillan, K. C. I. E. and Lady Gillan and Lt. Col. G. B. Williams, C. I. E., M. C., Political Agent, Western Rajputana States, Jodhpur. The guests were conducted through the town in a procession and on the way were

profusely garlanded by the Sirohi Motor Service, the Muslim Anjuman, the Cloth Merchants' Association, the Sanatan Dharm Mahasabha, the loyal citizens of Sirohi and the members of the Sirohi Bar. The silver effigy of Hitler in fetters with lopped off arms and a ghastly convulsive face in the procession, afforded a unique spectacle and an opportunity to the public to denounce and show their condemnation at the Nazi tyrant.

In the afternoon Sir George Gillan and Lady Gillan were received at a pandal specially constructed for the purpose and Sir George Gillan was requested to lay the foundation stone of the Sarneshwarji Library and Town Hall which he gladly did before a large representative gathering. The Chief Minister made a presentation of a Victory Purse of Rs. 40,000/- as a donation to the War Purposes Fund and announced that this event of supreme importance and rejoicings be commemorated by (1) the erection of a 'Victory Tower' at Sirohi (2) 'A Vegetable Market' to be named after Sir George Gillan, (3) the establishment of an Agriculturists' Advance Bank, (4) the construction of Sarneshwarji Library and Town Hall at Sirohi. The Chief Minister also presented to the Hon'ble the Resident the Silver Effigy of that Satanic Hitler fettered in iron chains to be sent over to proper quarters.

Sir George Gillan accepted with thanks the Victory Purse and observed that Sirohi has all these years done admirably well to assist War efforts and has furnished one additional concrete proof in donating this handsome amount. He thanked the Darbar for associating his name with the proposed market.

In the evening a garden party was held and later at night a banquet at Sarup Vilas and fireworks display at the Lakherao Tank entertained the honoured guests and prominent officers and citizens.

On the 11th May, Col. Williams laid the foundation stone of the Gillan Market and also performed the opening ceremony of the Sirohi Victory Motor Station, the very first building erected in Rajputana to commemorate the glorious victory of the Allies.

On Sunday, the 13th May, Thanks Giving Prayers were offered and illuminations made in religious places of all castes and creeds.

On 14th, sweets were distributed to children in all schools in the State, the poor and destitute were fed at State expense, a sweet meal was given to the prisoners and there was Police and Infantry Parade.

Similarly the news of the unconditional surrender of Japan being received, 16th and 17th August were observed as public holidays. A salute of 31 guns was fired at sunrise on the 17th, Union Jacks were hoisted on all State buildings, the prisoners in the Central Jail were given a holiday from work on 17th and fed on a sweet meal, sweets were distributed amongst the school children and a garden party was given to the officers and leading gentry at Sarup Club, a number of prisoners were granted remissions in their sentence and all public buildings and shops were illuminated on both the days, a donation was given to feed the poor and for the cows, a Laghu Rudra Puja and Thanks Giving Prayers were offered. The most important declaration made on the occasion was to make Primary Education free throughout the State and compulsory in Sirohi municipal area in the first instance. The Chief Minister also announced increase in dearness allowance to the extent of 10% to the menial staff and 20% to the ministerial staff drawing salary upto Rs. 30/-. War Service Medals were also announced to those who had collected Rs. 6,000/- during these six years.

9. POLITICAL SITUATION.

The relations with the Political Department and the Indian States continued to be cordial.

There was no Political unrest in the general public. The general public realising the work done by the administration for real public utility continued to follow their usual peaceful avocations which gave little cause of discontent or agitation.

As a protest against the conviction of two Rajgar Brahmins by First Class Magistrate Sirohi, for having refused to comply with the Procurement of Grain Ordinance, the Rajgar Brahmins of Manora resorted to their time old weapon of DHARNA and KHUD-KASHI on 29th June, 1945. A boisterous Brahmin named Narsa and an old woman Hanji with a mob of about 40 persons attempted to commit trespass into the Jagirdar's Padva and Nohra as the Jagirdar happened to be a witness in the case wherein 2 Rajgar Brahmins had been convicted. A Police force had to be rushed to Manora to keep the situation well under control and protect the Jagirdar and his family against the molestations of the rowdy Rajgar Brahmins whose numbers were increasing by re-enforcements pouring in from other villages of the State. The show of force and determination on the part of the State administration not to tolerate the coercive tricks of these unruly persons, made the Dharnawalas to disperse on approach of the Armed Police.

Jagirdars and Chhutbhais of Jelau, Sanpur and Korial. ill-advised as they were, took to outlawry during the month of August but strong handed action taken by the Revenue Department combined with a show of force by the Police, brought down these Jagirdars to their knees and they were made to pay penalties for their misguided

evil deeds. There were no repercussions amongst other Jagirdars visible though inwardly they were reported to be sympathising with their brothers who had turned Baghies.

In the month of September the dissensions between the Hindus and Musalmans arose over the playing of music before the mosque by Hindus during their religious functions and processions. The State advised both the communities to make some amicable settlement and not to break the past practice. The Tehsildar and Mr. Ahamadbux Circle Inspector were asked to make efforts to help both the communities to settle their differences in a friendly way. But all efforts proved of no avail and the Musalmans insisted on total stoppage of music whatsoever before their mosques even after the prayer time. The Hindus on the otherhand were not ready to break the past practice and wanted no restrictions whatsoever.

As it was not proper to prohibit the taking out of the processions and at the same time it was necessary to prevent a breach of peace, it was ordered that the decisions arrived at by the late Mr. Shahjadhkan the officiating I. G. of Police and approved of by the then Chief Minister. Mr. Macgregor in the year 1937 be strictly enforced as they used to be abided by both the parties till the year before last. The determination on the part of the administration not to allow any party to break the past practice had its effect and the Savantsari procession of the Mahajans passed off safely on the 11th September, 1945 playing music before the mosque during the prescribed hours without any untoward incident. The Rewari procession also passed off safely on 18th September, 1945. The whole credit of this peaceful termination of the affairs goes to Khan Bahadur D. D. Kothavala who had personally gone to warn the mischief mongers in both the communities.

CHAPTER II.

FINANCE.

The Finances and Accounts as also general supervision over Audit and allied matters continued to be under the direct control of the Chief Minister who held the Finance portfolio.

1. ACCOUNTS OFFICE.

Mr. Vijey Raj D. Singhi continued to be Accounts Officer throughout the year.

The budgets for the year under review were compiled on the basis of a revised budget of the closing year based on twelve months actuals and was passed in time. The expenditure in the budget was estimated at Rs. 12,09,551 against estimated income of Rs. 15,72,478.

To avoid and prevent wasteful expenditure and ensure a smooth and economical running of the Administration, strict adherence to the budget was enforced in respect of each department and under every expenditure. All important matters involving directly or indirectly affecting the budget were disposed by the Chief Minister.

expenditure in excess of allotments was permitted without his previous sanction. Reappropriations were generally discouraged.

The Chief Minister kept himself acquainted with the correct financial position from time to time by calling daily Balance Sheet and monthly returns of the income and expenditure under each head.

No case of embezzlement, misappropriation or other serious irregularity was noticed during the year.

The Accounts of the year were finally closed on 31st October, 1945.

The year under review opened with a balance of Rs. 27,61,629 as detailed in the last report. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE. The year proved better than expected. The actual receipts were Rs. 21,26,347 exceeding anticipated receipts by Rs. 4,53,869. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,52,896 inclusive of Rs. 3,839 paid towards refundable duty on silver bars. The year, therefore, had a net saving of Rs. 8,73,451.

The advance accounts with the various departments resulted in a debit of Rs. 2,37,955 and the Kothar accounts in a credit of Rs. 70,149.

Including the opening balance of 1st November the total receipts amounted to Rs. 49,58,125 and the total expenditure including the advance aggregated to Rs. 14,90,852 leaving a balance of Rs. 34,67,273 at the close of the year.

The details of receipts and disbursements are shown in Appendix 1.

Details of balance of investments were as shown below:—

INVESTMENTS.

1.	In Central Treasury	...	...	Rs.	2,71,136.
2.	Invested in Defence Bonds and Govt. Securities	...	...	Rs.	19,68,809.
3.	Invested in Post Office Defence Certificates	...	...	Rs.	10,000.
4.	Invested in interest free Defence Bonds	...	...	Rs.	10,000.
5.	Invested in Post Office Cash Certificates	...	...	Rs.	13,307
6.	Invested in Post Office Cash Certificates and N. S. Certificates	...	...	Rs.	15,812.
7.	Fix deposit with Central Bank of India, Bombay	...	...	Rs.	1,29,850.
8.	In current account with the Bank of India, Ahmedabad	...	...	Rs.	2,49,047.
9.	In current account with the Bank of India, Bombay	...	...	Rs.	87,965.
10.	In current account with the Central Bank of India, Ahmedabad	...	...	Rs.	3,62,216
11.	In current account with the Central Bank of India, Bombay	...	...	Rs.	5,555
12.	Investment in Sirohi Motor Service	...	...	Rs.	5,000
13.	Agricultural Bank	...	...	Rs.	5,000

14.	Invested in Laxman Power House ...	Rs.	1,02,022.
15.	Invested in Aburoad Electric and Industries Co., Ltd. ...	Rs.	31,250.
15.	Seth Jaichandji Himmatmalji ...	Rs.	45,000.
			<hr/>
TOTAL			Rs. 34,67,273.

Barring a technical internal debt which bears no interest, the State is now entirely free from indebtedness it had been labouring under, before the regime of the present Chief Minister. On the contrary, it has assets in the aforesaid investments yielding considerable interest.

2. AUDIT OFFICE.

Mr. Manik Raj Singhi continued as Audit Officer throughout the year under report.

The working of the Audit Office was quite satisfactory. It checked the bills and vouchers of the several departments and disallowed all payments not made according to rules and regulations. It also checked the Income Namas and made surprise checkings of the Accounts and cash of various departments.

No irregularities deserving special mention were observed in the course of audit. Trifling errors and commissions were, as far as possible, got rectified and the departmental heads were given the opportunity to discuss with the Audit Officer, the objections raised in the course of audit before the matter was referred to the Chief Minister.

As in the last year all quasi-public funds such as school funds, devasthan funds, municipal funds etc. were also audited during the year. No serious irregularities were noticed.

3. GENERAL FINANCIAL POSITION.

Inspite of huge sums being spent during the five years of the Council regime on works of public utility and nation building departments, the State, under the stewardship of the Chief Minister, has been able to build up its finances and establish an enviable credit in the market and outside world. What little the Chief Minister has been able to do is found aptly summed up by the Lt. Col. N. S. Allington, the former Political Agent, Western Rajputana States in the remark "once again I find myself sending you congratulations upon the really extraordinary progress which the State has made under your wise and able guidance. As I say, it is really an outstanding performance and when I remember the acute financial position and Political dissatisfaction which existed when I had anything to do with Sirohi, it is difficult to believe that it is in fact the same State."

CHAPTER III.

REVENUE.

I. LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

Thakur Mahendra Sinha Ranawat continued to be the Revenue Member and Settlement Commissioner till the middle of September when he resigned to join the Kotah State service as Civil Supplies Minister, Mr. Goverdhan Sinha Mehta the Revenue and Settlement Officer was promoted to be Revenue Member in view of his honest and meritorious work.

The post of the Revenue and Settlement Officer was abolished as most of the Settlement work was completed.

Of the 12,76,160 acres of land in the State the culturable area including 35,000 acres of grass reserve is 7,02,762 acres, the remaining 5,73,398 acres being covered by hills and forests. Of the culturable area 50,500 acres are under wells, while the remaining area mostly yields Khariff crop.

The total number of villages in the State is 515 out of which 452 are populated while the rest are unpopulated. The number of

VILLAGES.

Khalsa villages is 229 and the rest are Jagir or Muafi villages.

For revenue and criminal administration, the State is

UNITS OF ADMINISTRATION. divided into six Tehsils:—Sirohi, Abu-Road, Pindwara, Sheoganj, Reodar and Dilwara with a separate Tehsildar of each.

APPOINTMENT OF GIRDAWARS AND PATWARIS. The Settlement operations in the villages of Sheoganj and Reodar Tehsils being completed and rents to the cultivators thereof announced, a suitable land record staff of Patwaris and Girdawars, was appointed in these Tehsils.

RAINFALL AND CROPS The preceding year's monsoon on which the prospects of the year under report depended, was very heavy, in fact not only heavy but unprecedented in the history of Sirohi and unwitnessed before in living memory This heavy rain caused a good deal of damage to Khariff Crop, but the Rabi Crop cultivation proved quite compensating.

The rainfall during the year under report, on which the coming year's harvest will depend, was mostly ill-distributed and untimely. Though there was continuous rainfall in the beginning of the season a long gap followed to the detriment of standing crops. This has very adversely affected the prospects of the Khariff Crop for the coming year which is expected to be very poor.

The table below shows the total rainfall during the

year under report and in the previous year in each of the Tehsil centre.

Name of place.		Rainfall in 1943-44.	Rainfall in 1944-45.
Sirohi	...	55.99 inches.	38.95 inches.
Pindwara	...	50.24 "	37.69 "
Abu Road	...	58.35 "	37.84 "
Reodar	...	77.97 "	38.47 "
Sheoganj	...	32.32 "	36.26 "
Dilwara	...	154.49 "	84.32 "

The condition of the grass and fodder was good throughout the year but the disease of GRASS AND FODDER. Kharad and small pox amongst the cattle was so rampant in the villages that a good number of cattle died. The cultivation suffered a good deal on account of these diseases in the cattle.

Wells are the main source of irrigation in this State. At the beginning of the year the number of wells was 6,218, and 81 wells were dug during the year, thus raising the total to 6,299 by the end of the year. Special measures were adopted to encourage the agriculturists to dig new wells and liberal concessions were given. The State spent Rs. 8,825/- to provide for new wells.

The census was carried out during the year under report and the number of agricultural stock was 4,94,038. Diseases in cattle were responsible for a heavy toll and it will take time to regain the lost strength.

The boundary pillars between Sirohi and Palanpur, Sirohi and Marwar as well as Mewar were jointly inspected by the representatives of the States and the dilapidated pillars were repaired and missing ones reconstructed; and there remained no boundary dispute at the close of the year.

The various measures adopted last year to accelerate "Grow More Food Campaign" were pushed further during the year under report. The Revenue Officer and officials continued making vigorous propaganda by personally explaining to the cultivators to bring more area under cultivation and to dig more wells. Response was good and 79 new wells on new system and two wells on old Chhutmel system were dug during the year.

The construction of Bhula Tank is still in progress and a large area is expected to come under irrigation after completion of this dam.

To save the agriculturists from falling easy victims in the clutches of 'Sahukars' an Agriculturists' Advance Bank has been established with a capital of Rs. 50,000/- to start with. It is to lend money free of interest to a limited extent for a limited period to the Khalsa Khatedars. It is hoped that this facility will be much appreciated by the agriculturists whose welfare and prosperity the administration is always keen to advance.

The Sirohi Agriculturists' Bank Act has been enacted and brought into force during the year. The main conditions for granting loans under this Act are that:—

- (1) The loans shall be provided to the extent of two times the rent of the holding of a tenant.

of Urali and Varsali cultivation and four times in case of a tenant of only Varsali cultivation.

- (2) The period of repayment of loan granted under this Act shall in no case exceed five years. The loan will be repayable in half yearly or yearly instalments as settled at the time of advance. The dates for repayment of instalments shall be 15th day of January and the 15th day of June of each year.
- (3) A loan under this Act shall be granted on the security of tenants also. For every loan, there should be two sureties, the rent of whose land jointly shall be equal to the amount of the loan advanced. No tenant shall be a surety for more than one loan at a time and during its continuance.
- (4) No interest shall be charged on payments made towards the loan in the first year. On arrears remaining due, interest shall be charged at the following rates from the commencement of the second year:—

In the second year at 1% per annum.

In the third year at 2% per annum.

In the fourth year and subsequent years at 3% per annum.

As in the previous year the prices of food grains and other essential commodities were controlled in the interest of the general public. The GENERAL CONDITION OF AGRICULTURISTS. general condition of the people during the year was satisfactory. Though the Khariff crop was much affected due to heavy rains, the satisfactory yield of the Rabi crop and the high prices of the agricultural produce and enough of employment with high wages promoted the prosperity of the agriculturists and labouring classes.

Middle class persons and State servants with fixed incomes had indeed to face hard times.

The number of sanads and parwanas issued in the year under review was 934 and the fees realised from these amounted to Rs 1,13,614/-. In the preceding year the number of sanads and parwanas issued was 1,205 and the realisations on this account were Rs. 2,85,043/-.

The total collections from land revenue, babs and revenue contracts during the year amounted to Rs. 7,76,727/- as against Rs. 9,05,884/- in the preceding year.

The expenditure on the Revenue Department during the year (including Land Settlement) amounted to Rs 1,07,504/- as against Rs. 1,02,690/- in the preceding year.

2. LAND SETTLEMENT.

A herculean effort had to be made in the past to surmount the unusual difficulties and to bring the work to light and to the satisfaction of the cultivators and the Jamindars. The adoption of the rentals in the Settled Tehsils during the last three years had convinced the tenants of the usefulness of the reform and quite a hopeful atmosphere prevailed in the field-work. No difficulties were experienced in the current year's programme of work on field. Tenants realising the benefits of cash rents, even came forward for including their holdings on stable rents.

The programme of work for the year under review
was under:—
PROGRAMME.

- (1) Announcement of rates and distribution of Panris of 48 villages (28 of Sheoganj, 19 of Reodar and 1 of Devasthan) of Sheoganj and Reodar Tehsils.

Preparation of fair copies of record of 90 villages (62 of Sirohi, Dilwara, Hathkharch and 28 others).

- (2) Proposal of rent rates and preparation of cash files for 19 Batai and 6 Devasthan, total 25 villages of Sheoganj and Reodar Tehsils.
- (3) Map-correction, Khana-puri, soil-classification and attestation in 72 villages of Reodar (Batai Jagir and Muafi) and 1 village of Sheoganj, total 73 villages.
- (4) New survey and area calculation in 14 villages of Bhakar, Tehsil Abu Road.

The staff was sent out for field work in Reodar
FIELD WORK. Tehsil and a portion of the staff was retained in the office to complete the compilation and rent rate-work of the villages in field operations of the previous year.

A party of six surveyors was also sent to survey the Bad-Aj-lama land in the Khalsa villages of Sirohi and Sheoganj Tehsils and nearly 43,441 Bighas of dry land was surveyed and brought under permanent Khatas.

In the programme there were 72 villages of Reodar and 1 village of Sheoganj Tehsils for map-correction, Khanapuri, attestation and soil classification and this work was completed in all these 72 villages (now only 59-the rest having merged in the mother villages) of Reodar

Tehsil. Instead of 1 village of Sheoganj, 1 village of Sirohi was taken up as that was more urgent.

Traverse survey of Bhakar was taken up but it had to be abandoned later on because of the non-availability of the traverse knowing staff and the hands so spared were sent for the survey of Bad-Aj-Jama land in the Khalsa villages of Sirohi and Sheoganj Tehsils.

It may be mentioned that by the end of the year under report Settlement operations were completed in the Khalsa (except 24 villages of Bhakar). Devasthan, Hath Kharch and Abu Lease villages numbering 224 only 215 as 19 villages merged in the merged villages. Besides, survey and record of rights were done in 122 (now only 102 the rest having merged in merged villages) Jagir villages where the State shared an interest in the Hansil. 25 villages of Cash, Partition or Muafi were taken under Settlement. In Khalsa, only 24 villages of Bhakar remained to be settled which have been taken up in the next year's programme. To summarise the work done in the work was as under:—

Kind of villages.	Settled.	Not settled.
Khalsa —	175	24
Devasthan —	19	—
Hath-Kharch —	16	—
Abu-Lease —	5	—
Batai Jagir —	103	—
Cash, partition or muafi —	25	—
TOTAL —	343	24

In the office season, the work of compilation and the checking of the records of the OFFICE WORK. 59 villages surveyed in the field season was carried out. Tartib work of these villages was done almost on Ujarat.

Besides these, the rent-rate proposals, deduction of rents and preparation of panris were done in 48 villages of Sheoganj and Reodar Tehsils. The work of panri distribution and announcement of rents in the above villages was also done during the year under report. The tenants were given ample time to put up their complaints. The Chief Minister himself camped at Palri, Tehsil Reodar, at the time of panri distribution. The cultivators were fully satisfied with the rents announced to them and the result was evident in the fact that a large area was brought under cultivation by them.

The final reports of the Tehsils Sirohi, Dilwara and Hath Kharch were prepared during the year. The figures were tallied with the Tehsil records to bring them uptodate and clear all discrepancies.

Fair copies of 64 villages were completed and the remaining 26 villages' record was left for another year's programme. 2 copies of each of 64 villages were prepared. In all fair copies of 1,27,023 khasara numbers were prepared. The record of these 64 villages was supplied to the Tehsils.

Traces of maps of 69 villages (two copies of each village) with a total khasara number of 28,715 were prepared and maps of 230 villages (two copies of each) with a total khasara number of 1,22,460 were finished. Besides this, maps from old worn out survey sheets were traced on new survey sheets.

The Settlement Officer inspected nearly all the villages in field programme and himself
 INSPECTION. checked the soil classification of the irrigated areas and main chucks of dry soil.
 The Settlement Commissioner, too, visited all the main and big villages.

The actual expenditure was Rs. 35,576/- during the
 EXPENDITURE. year as against Rs. 42,931/- in the preceding year.

The income of the State has not been adversely
 EFFECT. affected. A large area has been brought under cultivation and if more waste but culturable land is demanded and occupied, as it is hoped and expected it will be, the income will not only increase but will bring better prosperity and contentment to the cultivators and employment for those who really want to make a living by agriculture.

The Settlement is being carried out only in Khalsa villages and is not forced on cultivators of Jagir area, as it is certain that the latter in course of time finding their brothers in Khalsa area better off by Settlement, will themselves ask for a similar boon.

PERMANENT CASH WITH THE JAGIRDARS.

Some Jagirdars still used to pay the Rajbhag of their Jagirs in kind and this required to be changed. So with a view to introduce uniformity in the system of collections of State revenues by substituting Cash in lieu of payment in kind, additions to the "Rules and Regulations for Jagirdars" were made and brought into force. It was made incumbent on all Batai Jagirs either to elect revisable Cash, Permanent Cash or to Partition whichever they preferred but in no case the present B . S . m for

paying the State share of revenue was to be allowed. If any Jagirdar paying revisable Cash or electing to have revisable Cash desired to make a permanent Cash Settlement, he could do so under certain conditions.

It is hoped that the Jagirdars will see to the utility of this reform and get the kind (Batai) system regarding payment of State's share, converted to Cash.

The working of the Revenue and Settlement Departments during the year under report was
 GENERAL. satisfactory. The peasantry and tenantry in general were quiet and contented. The collections of Revenue were timely. For this, credit is due to out-going Revenue Member Thakur Mahendra Sinha Ranawat and Mr. Goverdhan Sinha Mehta Revenue Officer (now Revenue Member) under whose guidance and advice the several Tehsildars, Settlement Superintendent and subordinate staff worked as a team in full co-operation with each other throughout the year.

It will be inappropriate to close this Chapter without recording the loss the State suffers in the departure of Thakur Mahendra Sinha to join a better appointment at Kotah. In spite of very arduous task, he had to perform in effecting Cash Settlement in the State where persons of tried abilities and experience had failed in the past, he, by his tact, merits and honesty of purpose, succeeded in achieving an upheaval mission. His forceful personality was also a strength to the administration in dealing and settling many a knotty problem. These merits were appreciated by the public in presenting him with about five addresses in handsome caskets and farewell parties, the last of which was given by the State when the Chief Minister with the consent of His Highness presented him with Poshak from the State in appreciation of his good services.



of a 6½ % *ad valorem* duty, was reimposed during the year under report to conserve stocks to the needs of the populace.

- (2) The export of cotton and cotton-seed was prohibited to remedy the increasing difficulty of the local consumers and of cattle.
- (3) A prohibitive export duty of Rs. 1/4/- per maund was imposed on vegetables and fruits with effect from 1st April 1945 to discourage exports so that general public may not experience difficulties in securing the same. This duty was subsequently reduced to annas four per maund in respect of melons and lemons which were in abundance at that time in the State.
- (4) To ease acute Ghee position arising out of depletion of stocks in the last year's relaxation of exports of Ghee and to secure the larger interests of the public, the ban on the import of Ghee from outside was withdrawn from the 13th May 1945.

The import, sale and possession of adulterated Ghee, however, remained still an offence under the State notification.

- (5) To accommodate the camel rearers, the export of camels was temporarily opened for a period of 3 months with effect from the 20th September 1945 on payment of a special duty of Rs. 10/- per he-camel and Rs. 30/- per she-camel. This

was done to help the camel rearers to make money of the surplus stocks with them as there was fear of disease spreading among the camels. As a result of this removal of embargo 771 he-camels and 90 she-camels were exported during the year, yielding an income of Rs. 10,523/-.

- (6) The prohibition on export of horses and ponies was also withdrawn during the year on imposition of a special duty of Rs. 10/- per head.
- (7) In order to co-operate with the Government of India in securing supply of goats and sheep for defence services and for civillian needs in Bombay, the export of goats and sheep from the State was prohibited with effect from July 1945, except under and in accordance with permits. These permits were issued only for a restricted number of goats and sheep per month. This restriction has costed much to the State as the export duty realised on these animals is reduced.
- (8) To afford facility and encouragement to the local trade in silver, importers of sufficiently large stocks of silver within a prescribed time-limit were allowed 50% concession in the import duty as a special case.
- (9) As a measure of concession to the military personnel serving overseas, certain categories of goods brought by them with themselves from overseas or sent by them by postal parcels to their relatives in the State were granted ~~exemption~~ ~~from~~ ~~payment~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Customs~~ ~~duty~~ from 1st August 1945.

The following table gives details of import and export trade of dutiable articles:—

IMPORTS AND
EXPORTS.

Goods.	Import.		Export.	
	1943-44.	1944-45.	1943-44.	1944-45.
A	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.
Opium	76	19	...	...
Jaggery	49,045	51,094	...	...
Sugar	17,653	18,060	...	...
Kirana	13,339	16,900	...	...
Timber	10,979	12,465	1,09,763	1,33,898
Grain	70,835	78,152	6,140	6
Rice	1,125	2,725	...	...
Tobacco	834	3,227	...	...
Oil and Oil seeds ...	9,588	11,886	6,272	117
Hair and Wool ... ..	...	...	6,332	7,101
Hides and Skins ... ..	...	...	3,823	1,575
Ghee	54	832	2,572	5
Cotton ... ..	...	...	60	360
Honey and Wax ... ..	...	...	161	135
Lime	8,536	10,953	2,18,719	2,78,198
Stone	17,742	26,175	17,358	10,288
Other articles	1,05,258	1,31,915	11,002	25,277
Total A.	3,05,114	3,64,403	3,82,202	4,56,960
B.	TOLAS.	TOLAS.	TOLAS.	TOLAS.
Silver	1,26,482	9,40,163	...	...
Gold	37,981	27,838	...	...
Total B.	1,64,463	9,68,001	...	...
C.	Value in Rs.	Value in Rs.	Value in Rs.	Value in Rs.
Machinery and Mani- hari	3,43,174	15,99,495	...	...
Cloth	19,62,828	16,53,516	1,97,854	19,257
Total C.	23,06,002	32,53,011	1,97,854	19,257

Goods.	Import.		Export.	
	1943-44.	1944-45.	1943-44	1944-45.
D.	Number	Number	Number	Number
Cattle ... ..	...	...	1,123	1,437
Sheep and Goats ...	...	...	36,602	24,109
Total D. ...	...	...	37,725	25,546
	Cubic ft.	Cubic ft.	Cubic ft.	Cubic ft.
Ballast and Sand ... ..	...	...	86,073	87,743

The following table shows the net income under the four principal sub-heads as compared with that of the preceding year.

Sub-Head.	Income in 1943-44	Income in 1944-45	Difference in rupees.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Imports	2,77,394	3,01,492	÷ 31,188
2. (a) General ...	75,593	83,073	÷ 7,480
(b) Special duty on export of Ghee, Oil and Chawala	...	...	...
	1,43,218	...	-1,43,218
3. Fines and Penalties	4,994	5,952	÷ 958
4. Miscellaneous	4,152	5,333	÷ 2,181
Total	5,02,461	3,95,850	-1,07,311

The increase in the income under the Sub-head 'imports' during the year was largely due to increased imports of silver and manihoti as against the preceding year. The decrease under the head 'exports' is only due to decrease in the export of Ghee, Oil and Chawala and Sheep and Goats.

The total expenditure of the Customs department during the year amounted to Rs. 32,806/-
EXPENDITURE. as against Rs. 32,283/- in the preceding year.

The number of smuggling cases reported during the year was 151. Of these, 107 were disposed
OFFENCES. of during the year.

During the year under report the Customs Thana at Sajjan Road was shifted from an old out
CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CUSTOMS THANA BUILDINGS. of the way rampart to a better situated and more accommodating and decent house near the Railway Station. A practically new building was constructed for the Thana at Manadar and another for the Nika at Devli by carrying out major alterations in the old buildings. Besides these several other Thanas were also improved by necessary repairs and whitewashing and the construction of a new up-to-date building for the Thana at the capital was commenced during the year.

4. FORESTS.

Kunwar Laxman Singh, General Member, State Council, continued to control the Forest Department throughout the year.

Mr. N. S. Panghalia, B. H. S. F. (Hons.) was the superintendent of Forest throughout the year.

Mr. Bhai Charan Das, Forest Officer of Jodhpur continued as a part time Forest Advisor throughout the year.

There are large and scattered unculturable wastes and forest areas in this State but no
CLASSIFICATION OF FORESTS. valuable timber is found existing therein. The forests form a net work of hills

throughout the State with a number of unworkable areas and blanks and may be classified as 'Low forests' having very poor stuff of third class satkatha species. In some vallies and low lying localities, second class species are also met with much crooked and unpromising growth which is mostly due to heavy pasture and unrestricted lopping and felling of trees in the forests.

The soil is suitable for growing Babul, Sarla, Shisham, Neem, Bamboo and such other local species. These species are found coming up quite successfully naturally and artificially. Both Shisham (*delbergia latifolia*) and sissoo (*delbergia sissoo*) are exceptionally doing well in this soil as are being tried for the last three years. Sandal is also being tried and is found satisfactorily growing in this soil. Its growth increment is fairly good and it being an ever green specy, looks very attracting in the Public Park of the capital town Sirohi. Shisham is growing faster than sandal and hence it is being tried on a bigger scale Teak (*tectona grandis*) is also being tried for the last three years and is doing quite well.

The principal forest products of the State are classified as below.—

FOREST PRODUCTS.

- (a) Major:-- second and third class timber, firewood, charcoal and bamboos.
- (b) Minor:-- Honey, wax, gum, soapnuts, amala, bahera and temroo leaves etc.

Major forest produce is mainly utilised by cultivating classes for the use of their araths, agricultural implements, hut making and such other purposes. Firewood species are found in abundance in this State and are utilised by the public in shape of charcoal and fuel.

Since March 1943, several coupes on scientific lines under coppice with standard system have been given on contract for exploitation. The contractors manufacture charcoal and export it together with fuel from these coupes. Handsome amounts have been realised from these coupes in auction. Results of fellings so far are found satisfactory. Coppice crop is coming up quite successfully which is being watched against fire and is closed to grazing. Coupe guards and fire watchers have been appointed for the said purposes. Looking to the average rainfall of the State, it is hoped that a rotation cycle of 40 years will do quite good in these coupes. Artificial regeneration is also being tried in the felled areas mostly in blanks. Results so far are successful.

Bamboos are found in Abu hills and in Bhakar Pargana of Santpur Range. In some places of Moras hills, bamboos are found in poor quantity and quality. Bamboos are being exploited on royalty system under restricted rules. Unchecked felling of bamboo which was allowed to be going on in the past, has now been controlled. The forest royalty was revised on bamboo from Rs. 52/13/- per wagon to Rs. 80/- per wagon (four wheeler) in 1944 which has caused good income.

Minor forest produce is being exploited on contract system which are given in public auction. The contractors are allowed to export it outside the State.

In the year 1941 it was considered necessary to take steps to preserve the forests of the State and accordingly Mr. A. D. Bhote, a trained and experienced Forest Officer of Rajpipla

FOREST
DEVELOPMENT.

was invited to examine the potentialities and scope of Forest Development and in consultation with him a scheme was drawn up for preservation of the existing forests against ruthless denudation and for new plantation.

In pursuance of that scheme the Forest Department being separated from the Customs, a whole time Forest Superintendent continued to supervise and manage the working of the Department. He pushed on and encouraged the development of forests by coppice regeneration, broadcast sowing and new plantation. Artificial regeneration was tried by way of broadcast sowing of local seeds in different areas of the forest and by doing plantations after raising Shisham, Sandal, Teak, Neem, Prosipus, Juliflora and Mohwa etc. plants in the nurseries.

The development by way of conservation was also pushed on by closing down grazing, lopping and browsing of trees. Intentional and accidental forest fires were controlled and checked with a rigid hand. Cattle graziers who used to take with them axes, bill-hooks and vyals etc., in the forest with them to lop up trees for fodder were given a clear warning that it was an offence to take the said articles with them in the forest. Those who were found contravening the instructions were dealt with severely.

Arboriculture scheme was taken up along Sajjanroad-Aburoad road and Shisham and Neem plants along a distance of about three miles did well. This scheme along Sirohi town roads was also getting on progressively during the year.

It was found that artificial regenerations did well in moist places and vallies but on dry ridges and hills they did not thrive due to hot weather.

The progress of Shisham, Sal, Tun, Eccslyptus and Sandal was quite all right in the Sirohi Public Park during the year.

Birla Brothers, who were induced last year to open a cement factory at Abu Road, have done nothing as yet in this matter.

DEVELOPMENT
OF MINING
INDUSTRIES.

Messrs. Jivan & Sons of Abu Road has also not yet started the Glass Factory though the licence was issued to them last year.

Prospecting licences for asbestos, soapstone, ruby, emerald, topaz and sapphire were issued to certain concerns who promised to make necessary efforts in prospecting the same.

Lime burning was carried on quite smoothly in Abu Road, Mandwa, Balda and certain other places in the State. Forest royalty on lime in Abu Road was revised and brought to uniformity according to the schedule of rates from Rs. 2/- to Rs 3/12/ per 100 Cubic feet

LIME STONE
AND MARBLE.

Nearly 30 quarries of ordinary building stone and 3 marble quarries worked during the year.

To facilitate public requirements of fuel and charcoal in Abu Road and Sirohi the contractors were made to sell the same on the following rates:—

FIREWOOD AND
CHARCOAL
PRICE.

Fuel

Charcoal

Sirohi	Re. -/10/6 per md.	Rs. 2/4/- & 3/-	} according to quality.
Aburoad	Re. -/10/6 per md.	Rs. 2/4/- & 3/-	

The income of the department by way of royalty on timber, firewood, charcoal, bamboos, lime, stone etc and from contracts, fines, grazing fees etc. amounted to Rs. 2,37,137/- INCOME. exclusive of Rs. 3,360/- of the Jagirdars' share as against Rs. 2,03 682/- in the preceding year.

The expenditure on the department during the year under report amounted to Rs. 27,005/- as EXPENDITURE. against Rs 21,206/-.

5. GRASS FARMS.

There were 35 grass farms known as jods. The last year's balance of old grass was 51 720 mds. and 12,511 maunds was received during the year. Of this 10,967 mds. of grass was disbursed to the various departments under free supply for the requirement of the horses, bullocks, village buffaloes and other State animals, and 4,360 maunds was sold to different departments and individuals leaving the balance of 48,904 maunds of grass at the end of the year.

The cash income from these jods came to be Rs. 19,542/- as against Rs 16,999/- in the preceding year. The expenditure came to be Rs. 6,157/- as against Rs. 8,317/- in the preceding year.

6. EXCISE.

The Excise Department was under the control of the Home Member and Mr. Shadi Lal Gupta E. T. was in charge of the Department, as Excise Superintendent throughout the year.

The Excise revenues are mainly derived from the sale of country liquor, opium and hemp drugs

Country liquor and Pseudo-Foreign Liquor is distilled at the State Distillery at Abu DISTILLATION. Road on contract basis and the contract of manufacturing and supplying country liquor as well as Misali and Pseudo-Foreign Liquor continued in favour of Messrs Nadirshaw Hormusji & Sons of Rajapla.

Retail licences were catered from the ware houses at Sirohi, Pinlaera, Abu Road, Sheoganj and Paldi. In view of the abnormal rise in the prices of Mhowa and other raw materials and the consequent rise in the cost of manufacture, the rate allowed to the Distillery Contractors for country liquor had to be revised during the year from Rs. 2/- to Rs. 4/- per L. P. Gallon.

The number of retail shops licensed for the year under report was 90 Total sale of liquor during the year was 36,709 gallons of 30 U. P. as against 27,141 gallons 30 U. P. in the preceding year. The receipts from this amounted to Rs 287,835/- as against Rs. 2,23,178/- in the preceding year.

The number of shops selling Pseudo-Foreign Liquors in the State during the year under report was 61 and that of Methylated Spirit 10 as against 50 and 9 respectively in the preceding year. The total consumption of Foreign Liquors (namely Rum, Aniseed, Rose, Ginger, Orange and Cardium) was 6,949 gallons as against 6,758 gallons in the preceding year. The income derived therefrom amounted to Rs. 1,22,508/- as against Rs. 97,760/- in the preceding year.

Opium required for internal consumption was obtained from Kotah State. The number of shops for sale of opium was 46 as against 47 in the preceding year. The consumption of opium during the year was 32 mds. 10 seers. 13 chhs. as against 63 mds. 35 seers and 3 chhs. in the preceding year. The income derived from this amounted to Rs. 45,055/- as against Rs. 58,543/- in the preceding year. The decrease is due to the fact that Kotah State could not supply more than 19 mds. of opium and all efforts for procuring it from elsewhere failed.

The number of shops for sale of Hemp Drugs during the year under report was 38 and the licence fees recovered on this account amounted to Rs 6,200/-. The quantities of various Hemp Drugs issued for sale to licence holders were:—

	Year 1943-44.	Year 1944-45.
Bhang ...	11 mds. 20 srs. 8 chhs.	9 mds. 37 srs. 10 chhs.
Ganja ...	14 mds. 1 sr. 6 chhs.	15 mds. 4 srs. —

The sale of these drugs brought a profit of Rs. 12,269/- as against Rs. 7,363/- in the preceding year.

Only 2 cases of Excise Offence came to notice during the year as against 1 in the preceding year.

At the instance of the Central Government, the British India Tobacco Excise Duty Act was adopted in the State 'as Mutandis' with effect from 1st

IMPOSITION OF
TOBACCO EXCISE
DUTY.

The work of assessment and collection of Excise Duty of Tobacco was entrusted to the existing Excise staff. Additional staff was sanctioned and kept for supervising and working the scheme.

The growers, curers, manufacturers and the dealers were required to obtain licences and 929 licences were issued during the year resulting in an income of Rs. 4,645/- on account of licence fees.

Almost all the Jagirdars of the State raised objections to the imposition of this new tax on the ground that they had hereditary rights over their lands to grow anything without further taxation. On being explained the necessity of the imposition of the tax as an essential step of co-operation with Government and adoption of all India Policy set out by the Central Government, they were reconciled to the same specially as the Darbar treated them liberally and fairly.

	The total earnings of the Excise Department
	amounted to Rs. 4,59,042/- (exclusive of
INCOME AND	Rs. 45,327/- of Tobacco Duty) as against
EXPENDITURE.	Rs. 3,38,059/- in the preceding year.

The total expenditure was Rs. 82,260/- (exclusive of Rs. 2,866/- spent on the collection of Tobacco Duty) as against Rs. 74,945/- in the preceding year.

CHAPTER IV.

PROTECTION.

Khan Bahadur D. D. Kothavala, M. B. E., I P. (Retd.), Home Member, Council of State, Sirohi, continued to be at the head of the Police Department as Inspector General of Police throughout the year under report. He also continued to be the commandant of the Sirohi Military Police and Kesar Infantry. He was assisted throughout the year by the Superintendent of Police, Mr. Gul Hasan Rizvi.

1. POLICE.

The permanent strength of the force during the year under report remained the same as it was during the preceding year.

STRENGTH OF
THE SIROHI
STATE POLICE.

Details are as under:—

Inspector General of Police	...	1
Superintendent of Police ...	...	1
Reserve Inspector of Police	...	1
Circle Inspectors of Police		

Public and Police Prosecutor	...	1
Sub-Inspectors of Police ...	...	15
Head Constables...	...	41
Constables including Camel Sawars ...		310
Total.		372

In addition to the above permanent strength, a force of 5 Head Constables and 45 Chowkidars continued to be maintained throughout the year under report for preventing the nefarious activities of Bhils and other Criminal classes from the border States.

There were 11 police Stations, 3 Out-Posts and 52 Road Petrol Chowkis in the State.

POLICE STA- TIONS AND OUT-POSTS.

Recruits are trained in the Sirohi Head Quarters by the Lines Officer under the personal supervision of the Reserved Inspector of Police in whose charge remain the Arms, Ammunition, Equipments and Clothings of the District Police Force. Relieving men are supplied from the Head Quarters to fill up the vacancies in different Police Stations and Out-Posts.

The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 89,363/- as against Rs. 89,388/- in the preceding year.

The work and discipline on the whole was satisfactory looking to the times and circumstances prevalent on account of war times when better employment and emoluments were

WORK AND DISCIPLINE.

easily available. 79 men as against 49 in the preceding year obtained discharge on resignations for getting themselves employed on higher wages with less irksome work elsewhere.

One Head Constable, 10 Constables and 3 Chowkidars
 PUNISHMENT. who proved inefficient and utterly rotten
 were dismissed from service.

One Head Constable, 12 Constables and 2 Chowkidars
 were punished with fines for serious defaults and one
 Sub-Inspector and one Constable were degraded for gross
 neglect of duties.

31 Constables and 3 Chowkidars were granted promo-
 PROMOTIONS AND tions according to seniority combined with
 REWARDS. merits.

11 Sub-Inspectors, 15 Head Constables and 18
 Constables were awarded monetary rewards and commenda-
 tory certificates in appreciation of their good work in
 detection of crimes and intelligence work.

11 Police Officers and men of neighbouring States
 and Government Police were also rewarded for their
 co-operation and useful assistance given to the local Police.

Besides these, 3 private persons were granted
 commendatory notes and cash rewards in appreciation of
 assistance rendered to the Police in detection of crimes.

The total number of cognizable cases reported during
 CRIME. the year to the Police, was 321 as against
 317 in the preceding year. The following
 table gives details of the same:—

Class of crime.	Number in 1943-44	Number in 1944-45
Heinous offences u/s. 302, 304, 307, 309, and 392 to 399 ...	19	15
House breaking ...	98	85
Theft ordinary ...	46	59
Cattle lifting ...	44	53
Hurt and Assault ..	54	48
Other offences under Sirohi Penal Code ...	45	31
Offences under Control Orders issued u n d e r Defence of India Rules ...	8	13
Chapter Proceedings ...	-	6
Petty Offences ...	3	10
Counterfeiting Government Coins.	-	1
TOTAL... ..	317	321

It is a matter of satisfaction that the number of Heinous offences and House Breaking decreased during the year. Increase in ordinary Theft cases is due to the nefarious activities of Criminal classes from adjoining States, and increase in the Cattle lifting is due to the prevalence of abnormal high prices of animals.

Increase in cases under Defence of India Rules is due to the effective control exercised on the hoarders and illegal profiteers and increase in the Chapter Proceedings shows better activity of the Police for preventing crimes.

DISPOSAL OF CASES. Out of 351 cases (including 30 of the last year's balance) 157 were sent for trial, 22 struck off as untrue, 117 remained undetected or lacked evidence, 43 remained pending

investigation at the close of the year and 12 cases were not investigated under Section 157-B Cr. P. Code.

It is gratifying to note that the number of undetected cases 117 showed a decrease of 34 as compared with the number of 151 in the last year.

77 accused remained under trial at the end of the previous year and 258 were arrested by the Police during the year and were sent up for trial to the Judiciary. Of these 119 were convicted, 122 discharged, acquitted or released on compromise and 94 remained awaiting trial at the close of the year. The number of absconding accused against whom proceeding under Section 512 Cr. P. Code has been completed, was 71.

As for the absconding offenders, most of them belonged to Juda-Patta (Mewar), Possina-Patta (Idar State) and Bhoola Valoria which being covered with the thick jungles and hills afford vast scope of hiding to the criminals.

The value of property stolen during the year amounted to Rs. 1,44,313/- as against Rs 51,338/- in the preceding year. The property recovered amounted to Rs. 49,881/- as against Rs. 19,452/- in the preceding year. Percentage of recovery was 34.56 as against the percentage of 41.79 in the preceding year.

It should be cleared here that the above figure of the value of the stolen property of the year under report includes the property worth about Rs. 1,00,000/- (one lac) alleged to have been stolen by the son of a Kalandri Mahajan from his own house, case of technical nature and is the out-come of domestic quarrel between the father and son over division of property. If this be not counted percentage of recovery of stolen property comes to 74.2

which on the whole can well be considered satisfactory.

It may not be out of place here to mention that due to the strenuous efforts of the Sirohi Police and with the most useful assistance of the Marwar Police, the big offence of dacoity at Bhootgaon came to be detected during the year under report wherein most of the culprits were sent up for trial. The leader of the Gang is reported to have been killed subsequently in Ajmer-Merwara.

Co-operation from public with the Police was very limited and it was obtainable only due to REMARKS. the personal influence of Police Officers and men concerned. The sense of Public Duty was practically absent with the result that criminals derived benefits of escaping punishments.

The Police Station House and Lines at Pamera, which had fallen down during the rains of BUILDINGS. 1943 were rebuilt during the year under report. Additions and alterations were also made in the buildings of Military Police Line at Sirohi. The construction of Police building at Pindwara was also taken up during the year and quite a good progress was made.

27 Motor vehicles were newly registered and the registration of 103 was renewed. 34 Driving LICENCES FOR MOTOR VEHICLES AND DRIVING. Licences were newly issued and 109 renewed. The total realisation of the fees from registration and Driving Licences amounted to Rs. 3,703/- as against Rs. 3,404/- in the preceding year.

20 new Radio Licences were issued and 33 were renewed. The fees realised from these RADIO LICENCES. amounted to Rs. 530/-.

2. MILITARY POLICE.

The strength of rank and file was 125 excluding 20 men doing duty as armourers, clerks, tailor and menials. It remained composed of Kayam Khanis, Menas and Rajputs (mixed) divided into three platoons.

The men were armed .303 rifles and formed a sort of Reserved Force to be used for Dacoit operations and for special exigencies.

The discipline of the force was quite satisfactory. The cost of maintaining this force was Rs. 30,997/- as against Rs. 28,001/- in the preceding year.

3. OTHER ARMED FORCES.

The strength of the Kesar Infantry including 18 Bandsmen was 129. Subedar Ganesh Singh was in charge of it. The total expenditure on maintaining this force during the year was Rs. 18,707/- as against Rs. 16,275/- in the preceding year.

These men were mostly employed for the guard duties at the Jail, Treasury and Palaces and for miscellaneous watch and ward duties.

The Brass Band attached to this Unit continued to provide music on parades, ceremonial occasions and State functions. It also continued to entertain the public free of charge in the Public Park once a week. It was also lent on the occasions of marriages and other festivities on payment.

4. JAIL.

Dr. R. H. Desai continued to be the superintendent of Jail throughout the year under report.

At the commencement of the year, there were 57 prisoners in the Central Jail, while 79 were admitted during the year under report, bringing the total to 136 as against 165 in the preceding year. Of these, 64 were discharged during the year, leaving 72 at the close of the year. The daily average of convicts and under-trials was 78.7 as against 76 in the preceding year. The average period of detention of an undertrial prisoner was 58.3 days during the year under report as against 26.3 days in the preceding year.

The general health of the prisoners remained good. The daily average of the sick in the jail was 2 as against 2.5 in the preceding year. There was one death during the year under report.

The conduct of the prisoners was satisfactory and discipline continued to be good.

The weaving factory did good work in the manufacture of 'durries' and 'niwar'. The manufacture of Khadi was not taken, as suitable yarn was not available and the building of the Jail Weaving Factory was under construction.

The building of the Jail Weaving Factory as well as the Jailor's quarters were constructed during the year at a cost of Rs. 12,175.

MORAL INSTRUCTIONS. Moral instruction lectures continued as usual to improve the moral out-look of the prisoners. Religious books were supplied from the Jail Library to the literate prisoners to read.

GARDENING. Vegetables were produced in the jail garden and as usual supplied for the prisoners' diet.

EXPENDITURE. The expenditure on the Central Jail and several lock-ups during the year amounted to Rs. 14,219/- as against Rs. 11,889/- in the preceding year.

TEHSIL LOCK-UPS. The working of the Tehsil Lock-ups remained satisfactory and the health of the prisoners was good.

CHAPTER V.

LAW AND JUSTICE.

1. LEGISLATION.

In pursuance of the policy to reform the laws in the State and to bring them as far as possible on lines with those in British India, the following enactments were amended or newly introduced during the year:—

1. The Sirohi Vaccination Act.
2. Motor Bus and Taxi Service Rules.
3. Indian Electricity Act.
4. Additions to the Rules and Regulations for Jagirdars.
5. Tobacco Excise Duty Act.

As a matter of co-operation with the Government of India towards the successful prosecution of the war, various important orders and amendments thereto issued under the Defence of India Rules by the Government of India in connection with the war, were adopted or promulgated in the State with necessary modifications. Those issued during the year were:—

1. Brass utensils Control Order.
2. Paper Control (Distribution) Order.
3. Sirohi State Motor Vehicles Spare Parts Control Order.

4. Sirohi Sugar and Sugar Products Control Order 1945.
5. Sirohi Cotton, Cloth and Yarn (Transmission by post) Prohibition Order.
6. Sirohi Ordinance Act regarding unlawful possession of Railway Stores.
7. Sirohi Food Grain Control Order.
8. Sirohi Civil Motor Car Control Act.
9. Sirohi State Aluminium Utensils Order.
10. Amendments in Defence of India Rules.
11. Amendments in the Cotton, Cloth Movement Control Order.
12. Food Grain Procurement, Supply, Distribution Order.
13. Imported Cotton cloth (regulation, Possession and sale) Order.
14. Present War (Defination Act).

J U S T I C E.

The Judiciary which was completely re-organized in 1940 by establishing a High Court on the lines of High Courts in British India, is quite independent of the executive interference. The Revenue and miscellaneous appeals are heard and decided by the Council.

2. HIGH COURT.

R a i Bāhadur Shivcharan Das, Bar-at-law, a retired District & Sessions Judge of British India, continued to be the High Court Judge throughout the year under report.

8. THIKANA COURTS.

The Nij Thikana has judicial powers of a Second Class Magistrate and tries suits upto the value of Rs. 500/-. The Patis Thikana exercises Third Class Magisterial Powers and hear suits upto Rs. 300/- in value.

The jurisdiction conferred on these Thikanas is limited to their respective Thikana villages.

9. PANCHAYATS.

Though some of the Tehsil Advisory Committees were given powers to decide petty cases but it is regretful to mention that they have shown no work. The public, having as yet little confidence in the impartiality of the Members, is still reluctant to place its cases before these non-official bodies.

10. ADMINISTRATION OF CIVIL JUSTICE.

The work of Civil Courts during the year was as under:—

Nature of work.	File including arrears.	Valuation.	Disposal.	Pending at the end of the year.
Suits ...	1,426	1,46,387/-	1,144	282
Executions ..	1,243	2,17,192/-	788	455
Appeals & Revisions ...	80	32,446/-	60	20

Suits regarding immoveable property numbered 12 and regarding monetary transactions 414 and other matters 12.

Details of the value of monetary suits instituted are given below:—

Under	Rs.	100/-	...	...	...	204.
	Rs.	101/-	to	Rs.	500/-	159.
	Rs.	501/-	to	Rs.	1,000/-	25.
	Rs.	1,001/-	to	Rs.	5,000/-	21.
Over	Rs.	5,000/-	...	...	...	5.
						<hr/> 414. <hr/>

The number of appeals in which decisions of the lower courts were confirmed was 25 and those in which they were reversed and modified were 17 and 6 respectively. In the rest of the appeals the cases were either remanded, compromised or otherwise disposed of.

11. ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

The following table gives details of the working of the individual Criminal Courts:—

Name of the Court.	Number of offences.		Number of accused dealt with.		Number of accused disposed of.	
	1943-44.	1944-45.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1943-44.	1944-45.
Sessions Court ...	5	6	18	23	15	21
District Magistrate's Court...	43	53	125	161	98	142
F. C. Magistrate, Sirohi ...	70	49	247	146	231	137
Abu Road ...	117	62	264	158	201	103
Sheoganj ...	64	64	132	113		3
Pindwara ...	41	30	147	48		

Reodar	...	46	56	111	188	69	160
S. C. Magistrate, Nibaj	...	23	18	43	63	26	59
T. C. Magistrate, Dilwara	...	5	6	5	11	5	9
T. C. Magistrate, Padiv	...	9	15	26	44	10	32
TOTAL ...		423	359	1,118	955	910	815

The number of cases disposed of in all the Courts during the year under report was 383 as against 404 in the preceding year.

In all 177 persons were convicted. The punishment inflicted was as shown below:—

Death.	Imprisonment.	Fine.	Imprisonment & Fine
Nil.	24	59	94

CRIMINAL APPEALS AND REVISIONS.

The number of revision applications and criminal appeals filed during the year together with those pending at the end of the last year in the High Court was 20 and in the Sessions Court 21. 13 out of these were dismissed or sentences confirmed, the remaining were either remanded, modified or quashed.

12. EXTRADITION.

Extradition relations between the State and British Government and neighbouring States remained cordial as in the past. The work done was as under:—

Year	Surrendered to Sirohi.	Surrendered by Sirohi.
	Persons	Persons
1943-44	24	15
1944-45	13	20

13. LEGAL PRACTITIONERS.

There were 2 advocates and 25 vakils as against 28 in the preceding year.

14. CATTLE POUNDS.

There are in all 12 cattle-pounds in the State. The total income in the year under report was Rs. 5,336/- and total expenditure was Rs. 1,329/-.

15. REGISTRATION.

437 documents of an aggregate value of Rs. 8,12,065/- were registered during the year under report as against 337 documents of the value of Rs. 4,90,495/- in the previous year. The fees realised were Rs. 2,354/- as against Rs. 1,610/- of the last year.

16. STAMPS.

The income of the Stamps Department came to be Rs. 36,298/- as against Rs. 57,700/- in the preceding year. The expenditure was Rs. 2,018/- as against Rs. 1,333/- in the preceding year.

CHAPTER VI.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Department of Public Works continued as before under the control of the Chief Minister and Rai Saheb Visaji was in charge of the department as Chief Engineer throughout the year under report.

Since 1940 this department has received better attention and increased allotments have been made to this department since then. Many urgently needed buildings have been erected and new roads constructed. A number of essential works are in progress and some under contemplation, but due to unavailability of sufficient labour and required materials like Girders, timber, and the like the progress is not so rapid as can be desired.

WORKS DONE.

The following important works were either undertaken, or completed or in progress during the year.

1. COMMUNICATIONS.

- (1) Abu Road & Mandar Road—The construction of this Road was in progress. It has nearly completed upto Toda, a length of 13 miles from Abu Road. Beyond this, a piece of 3 miles was also constructed. The total amount spent on this road during the year was Rs. 81,958.

- (2) Kivarli River Culvert—In rains this culvert often got covered with sand and rendered unmotorable. To avoid this menace, the level of the culvert was raised three feet high at a cost of Rs. 11,830.
- (3) Widening of Pindwara River Bridge—This bridge being too narrow to allow the water in the rains to pass conveniently, the water used to divert its course to the village side causing considerable terror and damage to the populace. To avert such a recurring calamity the bridge was widened as an essential measure of reform; and it is hoped that there will be no apprehension of inundation on the village side even in heavy rains.
- (4) Causeway on Erinpura Road—This was built at a cost of Rs. 1.335/-.

2. IRRIGATION.

- (5) Bhula Irrigation Project—The work of this project continued to make fairly good progress. Mr F. F Fergusson, Executive Engineer, Jodhpur, visited the site several times during the year and his valuable suggestions were carried out. The total amount spent during the year was Rs. 31,489/- which when added to the amount spent in the past amounted to Rs. 60,289/-.

3. BUILDINGS.

- (6) Primary School Building, Sildar—The construction of the School building at Sildar was completed during the year. All the expenditure incurred on the construction of the building was paid by Shah Punamchand Man brothers.

- (7) Science School—Rs. 26,180 were spent on it during the year. The construction could not be completed due to unavailability of Girders and other necessary materials.
- (8) Tehsil and Police Buildings at Pindwara—The construction of these buildings was in progress and Rs. 11,050 were spent on them during the year.
- (9) Police Station at Pamera—The construction of this building was commenced during the year and completed at a cost of Rs 11,000/-.
- (10) Jailor's Quarters & Factory— Jail weaving factory building as well as the Jailor's quarters were completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 12,175. These buildings have also been supplied with electric connection.
- (11) Pindwara Dispensary— The work of constructing dispensary building was commenced during the year. The expenditure of Rs 1,265/- was incurred upto the end of the year. Its progress was delayed due to scarcity of labour and materials.
- (12) Military Police Line— Additions and alterations were made at a cost of Rs 3,350 during the year.

Besides the above, alterations and additions in many State buildings at various places were also done and the usual maintenance and repairs of roads, tanks, Aerodromes etc. were attended to during the year under report. The constructions of Sarneshwarji Library & Town Hall and Gillan Vegetable Market were also commenced during the year.

4. EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure on Public Works during the year was Rs 3,15,145 as against Rs. 2,28,057 and Rs. 2,01,157

and Rs. 1,71,512 in the last three years. The details of the expenditure are:—

1.	P. W. D. Office and workshop	...	Rs.	16,902.
2.	Construction and maintenance of Roads	...	Rs.	1,10,085.
3.	Construction of new buildings and repairs to old ones	...	Rs.	83,639.
4.	Irrigation and sinking of wells	...	Rs.	43,794.
5.	Garage	...	Rs.	22,608.
6.	Public Park and Aerodromes	...	Rs.	13,402.
7.	Guest Houses	...	Rs.	9,228.
8.	Stables	...	Rs.	4,170.
9.	Kothis	...	Rs.	3,342.
10.	Furniture for Schools and Offices	...	Rs.	2,166.
11.	Rest Houses	...	Rs.	1,969.
12.	Farash-khana	...	Rs.	1,338.
13.	Lighting	...	Rs.	1,318.
14.	Landing grounds	...	Rs.	829.
15.	Nakkar-khana	...	Rs.	355.
				<hr/>
T O T A L				Rs. 3,15,145.

5. GENERAL.

The year witnessed an enormous scarcity of labour and material due to the obvious difficulties all over. With the cessation of war, it is hoped, we shall be able to get enough of materials and labour, at least in the latter part of the coming year. If so, the State ambitiously expects to make a still rapid progress in the direction of effecting essential reforms and schemes of development and expansion as post-war measures. The establishment of industries like cement and glass factory, power-house at Abu Road, addition of more mileage of metal roads for improvement of communications, exploration of mining industries, extensive irrigation projects and erection of long neglected but necessary State buildings at the capital and in districts, are a few of the many items awaiting attention to be taken up.

CHAPTER VII.

EDUCATION.

1. GENERAL.

The Education Department continued as before in the portfolio and under general guidance of Khan Bahadur D. D. Kothavala, M. B. E., I. P. (Retd.), Home Member, State Council.

Mr. M. N. Zutshi, B. A. continued to be Superintendent of Education and Head Master, Colvin High School throughout the year.

Mr. D. C. Gemawat, B. A. LL. B. continued to hold the charge of District Schools upto 11-7-45 and thereafter Mr. A. A. Shah, B. A. supervised them till the end of the year.

In the matter of Education, the State has since 1940 pursuing a liberal and progressive policy, achieved a remarkable progress which is well evidenced by a comparison of the expenditure figures of 1939-40 and 1944-45, Rs. 30,294/- in the former as against Rs. 48,395/- in the latter. The number of schools and students has also similarly increased. It was 22 and 1,249 in the year 1939-40 as against 38 and 2,938 respectively at the end of the year under report.

EXPENDITURE—The expenditure on running the several institutions amounted to Rs. 48,395/- as shown in the table below, which also shows the number of pupils in each at the end of the year:—

Name of Schools.	Number of Pupils.	Expenditure.
1. Colvin High School, Sirohi ...	480	Rs. 19,765/-
2. Lothian School, Abu Road ...	260	,, 4,308/-
3. H. R. Darbar Middle School, Sheoganj ...	299	,, 3,961/-
4. D. A. V. Lower Middle School, Pindwara ...	108	,, 1,566/-
5. D. A. V. Lower Middle School, Rohira ...	128	,, 1,558/-
6. Sir K. P. Boys' and Girls' Primary School, Sirohi ...	404	,, 3,129/-
7. 3 Primary Schools ...	256	,, 2,347/-
8. 7 Grassias' Schools...	139	,, 1,714/-
9. 20 Rural Schools ...	601	,, 5,438/-
10. 3 Aided Schools ...		,, 655/-
11. Establishment charges of both of Secondary and Primary Schools...		,, 1,730/-
12. Boy Scouts' Association ...		,, 734/-
13. Free Board and Lodging of Jagirdars' and cultivators' boys...		,, 611/-
14. Scholarships ...		,, 879/-
TOTAL ...		Rs. 48,395/-

This is, however, exclusive of Rs.
the State for the furniture of t

Colvin High School, Rs. 11,545/- paid as dearness allowance to the staff of the Education Department and Rs. 26,180/- incurred in the construction of Science Building at Sirohi and about Rs. 1,500/- spent for Sanskrit Pathshala, Sirohi, aid to Abu Road Municipality School and scholarships for Oriental Learning. Thus the total expenditure of the year on this nation-building department amounted to over Rs. 90,644/-.

2. ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

Since the establishment of the present Council, the education of backward communities has been systematically encouraged by the grant of special concessions and facilities to the students belonging to those communities.

The children of sweepers have been granted complete exemption from school fees. Poverty scholarships and remission of tuition fees have also been liberally granted to the deserving students of other depressed communities.

Three scholarships of Rs.18/- p. m. each were awarded to the deserving students for Collegiate studies.

Two scholarships of Rs. 10 p. m. each were also awarded during the year for higher Oriental Learning to the boys of families with traditions of learning behind them and who due to weak financial position could not send their children outside without monetary help.

Two more new rural schools one at Reodar and the other at Vasa have been opened during the
NEW SCHOOLS year.
OPENED.

To encourage the spread of education among the Muslims a grant-in-aid of Rs. 35 p. m. was sanctioned to the Islamia School opened in Abu Road on 10th December 1944.

A new school building of modern design was got constructed at Sildar for better accommodation of scholars.

In order to provide efficient and adequately qualified staff for the Colvin High School, 5 graduate teachers have been newly enlisted during the year.

The congestion in the Colvin High School has come to be relieved to a considerable extent by the occupation of six rooms in the new Science building inclusive of the Science Laboratory and the class room since July last.

In order to invoke an interest in the educated to increase literacy in the adults, the rewards announced during the year 1941-42, were also continued.

No tuition fee was charged in rural schools as also in the Girls' schools.

3. COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION.

From the very beginning it was the ardent desire of the Chief Minister to make the primary education compulsory throughout the State because of the realisation that only intensive mass education can lay the sure foundation of genuine progress and secure that all round development suited to modern conditions which Sirohi badly lacked. He had proposed this reform in the Council some four years back to be introduced in the Sirohi Municipal area in the first instance. But unfortunately, the concensus of public opinion at that time was not in favour of it and the proposal had to be dropped. He, however, did not leave the matter there but continued to educate public opinion in favour of it and caught the opportunity of introducing the same on 16th August 1945, the day celebrated for the unique and glorious Victory of the British Empire and the Allies over Japan. It is introduced for the

Municipal area in the Sirohi to start with for the present and in order to carry this reform into effect, the Chairman, Sirohi Municipality was instructed to educate public opinion in favour of it and to exert all efforts through the municipal members to implement this measure. Each municipal member is entrusted with taking census of children of school-going age in his ward and made responsible to see that no child of school-going age, whether a boy or a girl, fails to join a school if it is not already attending one.

A legislation is also being enacted to provide for penalties for guardians not caring to comply with the orders.

4. COLVIN HIGH SCHOOL.

Owing to the growing number of scholars, classes 3rd, 4th, 5th and 9th had three sections each, while all other classes had two sections each.

The staff consisted of one clerk and 31 teachers, of which six were graduates, two post graduates and two trained.

Out of 37 students sent up for the High School Examination, 26 passed. Nine students secured second class and four distinction in Mathematics.

Special attention was paid to the physical culture of students and physical training and games remained compulsory. In order to encourage the students, prizes were distributed in the annual sports at month.

5. WORKING OF OTHER SCHOOLS.

The other schools also, both at the district and in district, worked quite well and maintained their standard of efficiency throughout the year.

From time to time the Officer-in-charge of District Schools inspected the several State schools as well as the schools run by private individuals and gave instructions to the staff for bringing their working on the better lines.

6. OUTSTANDING EVENTS.

1. Lt. Col. Sir G. V. B. Gillan, K. C. I. E., Resident for R a j p u t a n a and Lt. Col. G. B. Williams, C. I. E., M. C., Political Agent, Western Rajputana States, visited the Colvin High School on the 5th December 1944 and witnessed the Scouts Demonstrations, and on the same evening saw the play "The Capture of Hitler" performed by the s t u d e n t s of Colvin High School. These performances were very much appreciated by the distinguished guests, and the Chief Minister was pleased to award one month's extra salary to Mr. M. N. Zutshi, Head Master and Mr. A. K. Dixit, Assistant Master and an extra grant of Rs. 150/- to the Scouts' Association
2. On the occasion of H. H.'s Birthday on the 13th October 1945, a coloured light procession was taken out by the students at night terminating in prayers and Garba songs by the school girls at the Palace.

On the day following the Boy Scouts held a camp-fire and sports which were witnessed by Nawabzada Mir Sayed Alam Khan District & Session Judge, Rajkot, in the company of his daughter.

3. To commemorate the m e m o r y of Rai Saheb Nainmalji Khichiya who had paid Rs. 21,000/- for the construction of the building of H. R. Darbar Middle School, Sheoganj, his photo with that of the Chief Minister was unveiled at the hands of Nawabzada on 14th October, 1945 in the School Hall.

4. In deference to the pious desire of His Majesty the King Emperor to offer prayers on the 16th September, 1945, Mass Prayers were offered that day in the Colvin High School.

7. SCOUTING.

This movement is making good progress throughout the State and the people have been realizing its worth as an educative movement, which develops the moral standard of the boys, inculcates in them the spirit of loyalty towards the country and sows the seeds of social service, brotherhood, unity and equality amongst all. The number of scouts and cubs was 709 as against 690 of the last year.

The scouts of the Colvin High School often entertained the gatherings on various occasions by holding camp-fires and giving interesting demonstrations.

The State continued to pay the annual grant of Rs. 500 for scouting activities.

It is gratifying to mention that Mr. M. N. Zutshi, State Scout Commissioner, was elected in April 1945 as a member of All India Scouts Council whose President is His Excellency the Viceroy, Chief Scout for India.

8. DARBAR BOARDING HOUSE.

The strength of the Boarding House at the end of the year was 63 as against 60 in the last year.

The institution remained open to boys of all castes and creeds.

As last year free admission and free board and lodging were granted by the Darbar to 3 boys of cultivators and 3 of Jagirdars so as to provide an impetus and encouragement to these classes for education. The cost on this account to the State was Rs 535. Besides, one boy was helped from Shubh Fund and 34 poor Rajput boys from contributions raised from bigger Jagirdars.

CHAPTER VIII.

MEDICAL.

The Medical Department continued to be under the control of the Home Member with Dr. R. H. Desai, M. B. B. S., as Chief Medical Officer throughout the year.

1. MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

The number of Medical Institutions was as under:—

1. Crosthwaite Hospital, Sirohi
2. Zenana Hospital, Sirohi.
3. Sarneshwarji Dispensary, Abu Road.
4. Mandar Dispensary.
5. Sheoganj Dispensary.
6. Kalandri Dispensary.
7. Pindwara Dispensary.
8. A Maternity Home at Abu Road.

2. MEDICAL RELIEF.

The total number of patients who received treatment as out-door patients during the year under
PATIENTS. report was 1,11,371 as against 1,13,313 of the last year. The number of indoor-patients was 512 as against 470 of the last year. Out of 512 in-door patients treated, 423 were cured, 48 absented themselves from the Hospitals, 17 died during the course of treatment and 24 were receiving treatment at the close of the year under report, against 404, 31, 11 and 24 respectively of the previous year.

The number of surgical operations (major and minor) performed during the year was 3,046 as against 3,190 of the preceding year.

SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

There were 48 cases of bite by rabid dogs. Of these, 38 were treated at Anti-Rabic Centre at Abu Road and the remaining at Sirohi.

ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT.

Because of heavy rains in 1944, certain districts, suffered heavily from Malaria. This disease prevailed in a very severe type. To combat this, special arrangements were made for distribution of Quinine and Mepacrine Tablets and other native medicines to the public on an extensive scale. A special Vaidya was also sent to the Rural Area to distribute Ayurvedic medicines to villagers suffering from fever or otherwise in need of medical aid. He supplied medicines free of charge to nearly 2,000 patients with very good results.

MALARIA.

Some five to six cases of cholera were reported from Abu Road during the Ambaji Fair in the month of May. Prompt precautionary measures were adopted. 1,000 (one thousand) copies of pamphlets giving instructions both preventive and remedial were distributed to the people in Abu Road and adjoining villages. Almost all wells were disinfected with Potassium Permanganate. Sale of unwholesome and over-ripe fruits was prevented and prohibited. Due to these rigid and vigorous measures, the apprehended danger of spread in an epidemic form came to be averted.

CHOLERA.

3. VACCINATION.

Vaccination for children was made compulsory and to enforce it, a Vaccination Act was passed and brought into force from the 30th January 1945. The total number

of Primary Vaccinations during the year was 5,375 as against 5,955 in the preceding year. The percentage of success was 9,748 as against 99.08 in the preceding year.

The average cost of each vaccination came to Rs. 0-5-2.

4. EXPENDITURE.

The total expenditure incurred on the Medical Department during the year amounted to Rs. 47,081/- as against Rs. 42,014 of the previous year.

5. IMPROVEMENTS.

To facilitate water supply to the Hospitals, wells have been dug in the Crosthwaite and Zenana Hospitals. The well in the Zenana Hospital has been made pacca and a small garden is also being raised in the Hospital compound.

WATER
SUPPLY FOR
HOSPITALS.

To provide an up-to-date building for the dispensary in Pindwara at present housed in a hired building, a new one was planned and its foundation was laid at the hands of Colonel G. B. Williams, C. I. E., M. C., Political Agent, Western Rajputana States, Jodhpur, on 3rd April 1945. The construction has been commenced and materials are being collected for the purpose. It is estimated to cost Rs. 15,000/-.

FOUNDATION
STONE OF
PINDWARA
DISPENSARY
LAID

6. GENERAL.

All treatment and medicines were given entirely free in all the State hospitals and dispensaries to all irrespective of caste and creed.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PRICE CONTROL.

Thakur Mahendra Sinha Ranawat was in charge of the Department as Chief Controller of Prices and Supplies till 19th September 1945, when on his resignation Mr. G. S. Mehta, B. A., LL. B., was appointed to the post.

Mr. Chatur Bhuj Mistri was the Controller of Commodities throughout the year.

The State being a deficit area in respect of the staple foodgrains, about 1.058 tons wheat, FOODGRAINS: 696 tons maize, 54 tons bajara and 80 tons rice were arranged to be imported from Punjab and distributed to the dealers at cost prices. With a view to conserve the stock of wheat, bajra, maize etc., and to exercise control and check over the prices thereof, Food-Grains Control Order was promulgated during the year. Under this Order no one was allowed to hoard more than 20 maunds of foodgrains and every dealer was required to submit the details of the procurement, sale and balance at-hand of the controlled foodgrains at the end of each month. The prices of wheat, maize, bajra, rice, barley, karluwa, kalath, gram etc. were controlled and effective measures were introduced for the proper supply of

foodgrains at the controlled rates. This helped much in checking hoarding, profiteering and black marketing.

To procure wheat, bajra, karluwa, maize etc. from the local producers 'The Foodgrains Procurement, Supply and Distribution Order' was also promulgated and about 38,000 Mds. of wheat were procured by the Control Department. The procured wheat as well as imported foodgrains were distributed to the deficit towns and villages. But the demand of wheat remained greater than the supply and it was considered necessary in January and February to instruct the dealers to sell other foodgrains with wheat in half to half quantity to every consumer.

A Family Rationing Scheme was also prepared for Sirohi Town and the necessary census of the families was made when the year ended.

The food situation on the whole was satisfactory throughout the year.

The total quota of sugar allotted for this State was 500 tons including 100 tons of Khandsari

SUGAR. Sugar. Khandsari Sugar was not imported in the State as good quality was not available at controlled rates in the U. P. markets. On the State's representation the Director of Food Supplies for Rajputana, Abu, changed the Khandsari quota with equal quantity of Crystal sugar.

The whole of the sugar quota was imported by the State itself and approved dealers throughout the State were appointed to sell the sugar to the consumers at the controlled rates. Permits were issued to the consumers requiring more than one rupee sugar. Rate of the sugar was fixed by the Price Committee. The rate of the Crystal sugar in Sirohi was as under:-

Wholesale	... Rs. 21/- per Md.
Retail	... 1

Sirohi Sugar and Sugar Products Control Order was also promulgated in the State during the year. To stop the hoarders and black-marketers in sugar trade, a sugar distribution scheme was drawn up and its sale was organized by distributing sugar on Ration Cards in Sheoganj and Abu Road. The State servants at Sirohi were also supplied sugar on Ration Cards.

The Sugar position in the State remained satisfactory and the consumers were able to get the sugar without any difficulty at the controlled rates.

1,340 tons of gur was allotted for the State from the U. P. and all was procured and sold at controlled rates. The demand of gur was much more than the allotted quota. With repeated requests and continued strenuous efforts with the U. P. Government through the Political Department, it was possible to import only 1,840 tons of gur.

The rate of gur was as under in Sirohi town:-

Wholesale	... Rs. 13/7/- per Md.
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Retail	... 2 seers 13 chhs. per rupee.
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The Gur Control Order worked satisfactorily during the year in the State.

The position of kerosene oil in the State was far from satisfactory. Only 10,980 tins of KEROSENE OIL. kerosene oil were received in the State as against 12,705 tins in the previous year and great difficulty was experienced in the equitable

distribution of this essential article. The kerosene prices at the end of the year were as under:—

	Wholesale per tin.	Retail per standard bottle.
Sirohi	Rs. 5/12/-	Rs. -/4/-
Sheoganj	Rs. 5/8/-	Rs. -/4/-
Abu Road	Rs. 5/4/-	Rs. -/4/-
Sarupganj	Rs. 5/7/-	Rs. -/4/-
Pindwara	Rs. 5/8/6	Rs. -/4/-

In the beginning of the year shortage of fine cloth began to be felt in the State due to stoppage of supplies from the main distributing centres situated in British India and due to export of cloth which was allowed in the preceding year on imposition of 6½% ad valorem duty. The Darbar immediately prohibited export of cloth and yarn with a view to conserve existing stocks of cloth and yarn and attempted to move the authorities concerned for releasing necessary stocks.

The Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order worked satisfactorily. On 1st January 1945, all T. C. B. marked cloth and yarn was seized under Section 2 of the Cotton Cloth and Yarn Control Order, 1942 and was confiscated in accordance with the Textile Commissioner's Express Telegram No. TCS-31 dated 21st December 1944.

The total quantity of cloth and yarn imported during the year under the All India Cotton Cloth and Yarn Distribution Scheme was as under:—

Cloth Value	1944	Yarn Value	1944
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The quantity of fine cloth was very small in the received bales and the people expressed dis-satisfaction over this shortage.

For fair distribution of cloth to the consumers at controlled prices, 3 Semi-wholesalers were appointed. The cloth merchants at big mandis formed Cloth Merchants' Associations and cloth was sold at one shop in each mandi.

This system worked quite satisfactorily and everybody was able to purchase his cloth requirements without any difficulty.

The balance of standard cloth at the beginning of the year was 9,06,270 yards and 3,55,878 yards were imported during the year. Of this, 7,07,756 yards was sold during the year leaving a balance of 5,54,392 yards at the close of the year. This cloth helped a great deal in meeting the needs of the people.

To avoid hoarding and high profiteering the movement and sale of Ghee and Oils were controlled and regulated. The ban on the export of ghee, til oil, sarsu oil etc. continued throughout the year. The ban on the import of ghee from outside was withdrawn from 13th May, 1945. This eased the ghee position which had become acute due to depletion of stocks in the last year's relaxation of export of ghee and heavy toll in deaths amongst milch cattle.

The Paper Control (Distribution) Order, 1944 was promulgated during the year and Secretary, Council of State, continued to be the Paper Controller throughout the year. The paper was allotted from Delhi and Calcutta and no difficulty was observed by the traders in importing the

same. The price of the paper was fixed and consumers were able to get their full requirements without least difficulty at controlled prices.

To bring in confidence the Trading Class and the customers, a Price Board was constituted with a majority of non-official members. The chairman of the Board remained Mr. D. C. Gemawat, B. A. (Hons), LL. B., District Magistrate, throughout the year. The Board helped much in fixing the prices of various commodities and by giving their valuable suggestions on the important control matters.

Of the 18 Jagirs which were under the management of Court of Wards due to State arrears at the commencement of the year, 7 were released during the year on clearance of their indebtedness. The released Jagirs were (1) Momavali Panti of Deora Partap Singh, (2) Dodua Panti of Deora Kesar Singh, (3) Angor Panti of Deora Bhavan Singh, (4) Tavri of Deora Lal Singh, (5) Selwada (6) and (7) both the Pantis of Malgam. Thus 11 remained under attachment at the close of the year. The State Revenue outstanding against these Jagirs amounted to Rs. 29,573/-.

14 Devasthan Jagirs continued as before under the management of this department. Shree DEVASTHAN JAGIRS. Raj Gurusthan at Sirohi was also taken under the supervision of this department during the year under orders of His Highness.

The administration of the Jagirs under Wardship was carried on regular budget system, which made it possible to clear off debts and proved conducive to general benefit of the Jagirdar and his people.

The expenditure on the Court of Wards amounted to Rs. 2,362/-. The income, realized as EXPENDITURE. contribution from minority Jagirs at 1% of their income towards the management expenses, was only Rs. 486/-. The fines imposed amounted to Rs. 1,492/-. As such the difference of Rs. 870/- had to be defrayed from the State Revenues.

The expenditure on Devasthan and Charities etc. amounted to Rs. 11,432/- as against Rs. 12,230/- in the preceding year. This amount was exclusive of the large sums spent from the income of Jagirs dedicated to the Devasthans.

APPENDIX.

Particulars of Receipts and Disbursements

RECEIPTS.

No.	Head.	1943-44.	1944-45.
1	Opening Balance ...	16,81,649	27,61,629
2	Land Reveuue including arrears recovered of the previous years ...	5,62,748	5,54,656
3	Vera bab, Lag babs and Contracts ...	3,46,216	2,54,510
4	Excise ...	3,38,060	4,59,041
5	Forests and Jods ...	2,20,681	2,56,678
6	Cutsoms ...	5,03,261	4,04,228
7	Stamps ...	57,700	36,298
8	Registration ...	1,721	2,354
9	Fines and forfeitures ...	13,443	16,572
10	Municipalities ...	2,846	2,880
11	School fees... ...	5,054	6,042
12	Gezette ...	591	3,242
13	Salt Compensation ...	10,800	4,500
14	Excise Duty on Matches ...	21,042	28,123
15	Miscellaneous ...	1,48,732	97,223
Total Revenue ...		22,32,895	21,26,347
Advances recovered ...		71,694	70,149
Grand Total (including Opening Balance) ...		39,86,238	49,58,125

NOTE:—The figures are given in whole rupees, annas and

in Sirohi State for the Year 1943-44 and 1944-45.

DISBURSEMENTS.

No.	Head.	1943-44.	1944-45.
1	His Highness and Members of Ruling Family...	1,38,020	1,41,700
2	Administration ...	1,30,264	1,35,936
3	Land Revenue and Settlement ...	42,992	35,193
4	Excise ...	74,945	82,260
5	Forests and Jods ...	29,523	33,147
6	Customs ...	32,283	37,306
7	Army and Police ...	1,36,522	1,39,897
8	Jail and Lock-ups ...	11,889	14,214
9	Public Works ...	2,23,067	3,15,146
10	Medical Department ...	42,014	47,081
11	Sanitation and Municipalities (expenditure incurred by the State)...	19,810	19,443
12	Education ...	48,851	48,395
13	Religious and Charitable Endowments ...	9,324	11,814
14	Pensions and Grants ...	9,909	14,099
15	Miscellaneous ...	1,30,557	1,83,604
	Total Expenditure ...	10,84,950	12,52,896
	Advances made ...	1,39,659	2,37,956
	Total including Advances	12,24,609	14,90,852
	Closing Balance ...	27,61,629	34,67,273
	GRAND TOTAL. ...	39,86,238	49,58,125

pies being omitted throughout.

I. K. PANDYA,
Chief Minister, Sirohi State.